

aid to Africa than President Bush has maintained.

In nominal dollars, total United States aid to Sub-Saharan Africa increased from \$2.034 billion in FY 2000 to \$3.399 billion in FY 2004.

In nominal dollars, of the \$1.365 billion overall increase, \$728.9 million, or 53 percent, consists of emergency food aid rather than overseas development assistance, which contributes to sustainable development. The remainder of the increase is comprised primarily of funding for the President's HIV/AIDS initiative (distributed between two accounts, Child Survival and Global Health) as well as emergency and post-conflict assistance to Liberia and Sudan.

Actual development assistance, excluding food aid and security assistance, increased only 33 percent from FY 2000 to FY 2004 in real dollar terms, or 43 percent in nominal dollars.

In nominal dollars, less than \$450 million of the increased foreign aid to Africa is official development assistance.

Official Development Assistance to Africa (aid programs directed at sustainable development) increased by 43 percent from FY 2000 to FY 2004. Of these programs (in nominal dollars):

Funding for the Child Survival and Health Programs Fund increased by 70 percent, primarily for HIV/AIDS.

Development Assistance funding increased 1 percent over FY 2000.

Global Health and HIV/AIDS Initiative, which did not exist as a separate program in FY 2000, received \$263.8 million for Africa in FY 2004.

Peace Corps funding increased by 19 percent.

African Development Bank funding increased by 24 percent.

African Development Foundation funding increased by 31 percent.

African Development Fund decreased by 12 percent.

The newly-created Millennium Challenge Account did not exist in FY 2000, and its entire FY 2004 budget went towards administrative expenses rather than country programs.

The Heavily Indebted Poor Countries debt relief funding decreased by 32 percent.

The only programs that both existed in FY 2000 and more than doubled by FY 2004 were Foreign Military Financing, which increased by 109 percent, and emergency food aid (PL 480 Title II), which increased by 159 percent.

From FY 2000 to FY 2005 (estimated), U.S. aid to Africa will have increased by 78 percent in real dollar terms or 93 percent in nominal dollars—not quite a doubling, much less a “tripling” of aid. Of this increase, 50 percent consists of emergency food aid (PL 480 Title II).

Actual development assistance, excluding food aid and security assistance, will have increased an estimated 74 percent from FY 2000 to FY 2005 in real dollar terms, or 89 percent in nominal dollars.

TRIBUTE TO THE DOMINICAN DAY PARADE AND FESTIVAL OF THE BRONX

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to the sixteenth annual Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx which will take place Sunday, July 17, 2005. This famed event is

eagerly anticipated by the Dominican and Bronx communities each year. It is a wonderful celebration of the spirit and richness of Dominican culture.

Under the leadership of Felipe Febles and Rosa Ayala, the Bronx Dominican Day Parade, Inc., (La Gran Parada Dominicana de El Bronx) has grown into an important institution to increase the self awareness and pride of the Dominican people in order to promote economic development, education, cultural recognition, and advancement.

As the second largest Latino community in New York City, Dominicans have made invaluable contributions to the city, as well as to the entire nation. Although the highest concentration of Dominican people live in Washington Heights, a significant number have enriched the Bronx with their unique culture and spirit. The Dominican culture is one characterized by, among other things, diverse multiculturalism, strong family values, distinctive art, amazing music and unique cuisine. We are grateful that so many have chosen to make the Bronx home.

Mr. Speaker, the roots of Dominican New Yorkers lie in a country with a fascinating history and arresting beauty. The Dominican Republic is the home of a number of people from various heritages. As a result, the culture is charged with strong Taino, African, and European influences. One visit to the Dominican Republic will put to rest any questions one might have as to why Dominicans in America retain such a strong sense of pride in their homeland and never stop missing it.

The achievements and contributions made by Dominican-Americans and Dominican residents have spanned the realms of politics, science, the Armed Forces, literature, public service, and the arts, and undoubtedly make them an integral part of American society. The Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx is a great opportunity to celebrate the Dominican people's culture, history, and bright future.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in honoring the Dominican Day Parade and Festival of the Bronx.

HONORING JAIN CENTER OF ELMHURST, NY

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the opening of the Jain Center of America in Elmhurst, New York, a part of my Congressional district. As the Congressman of the second largest concentration of Indian Americans in the United States I am proud of the 55,000 South Asians I have the privilege of representing in the U.S. Congress.

This beautiful new temple was built to accommodate the currently growing population of practicing Jains in the New York area, which amounts to an estimated 1,300 people.

Perhaps most importantly this new temple consists of the 2 sects and the 4 sub-sects of Jainism, a reflection of the growing diversity in the Jain community. This will be the first time in America that all the different sects of Jainism will be able to practice in one place. Jainism is one of the oldest religions originating from India.

Jainism is based on the principle of ahimsa, non-violence in thought, feeling and action, an important tenet for any religion but heavily stressed in Jainism. Another foundation of Jainism is the belief in reincarnation; the goal of a Jain is to break free from the cycle of birth and re-birth and obtain enlightenment (moksha).

In Jainism there are 24 teachers, thirthankaras, who teach their followers the path to moksha (nirvana). In the temple the different idols represented are those of these teachers, who are not gods because they do not create or destroy. Jains believe that the universe is just here—there is no beginning or end. Although many people know little about Jainism, I believe its tenets, especially that of non-violence, should play a significant role in today's world. All of us, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or any other religion can learn a great deal from Jainism. I commend the Jain community of New York for building this new temple and wish them the best of luck in whatever they do.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago tomorrow President Theodore Roosevelt made the important decision to create the U.S. Forest Service. The agency was given a unique mission: to sustain healthy, diverse, and productive forests and grasslands for present and future generations.

Mr. Speaker, the Forest Service has come a long way in the past 100 years.

Forests like the Francis Marion National Forest in my district are valuable to the community and to environment. Currently, the U.S. Forest Service is responsible for 192 million acres of mountains, grasslands, rivers and wilderness resources that sustain 80 percent of the Nation's freshwater supply and hosts 214 million recreational visits each year.

Mr. Speaker, I also wanted to recognize Forestry and Forest Health Subcommittee Chairman WALDEN for his effort on behalf of our Nation's forests and for his continued efforts to implement President Bush's Healthy Forest Initiative.

To the Forest Service, I wish it a happy birthday and I hope that it has 100 more years of success in the future.

STATEMENT ON THE LOSS OF LANCE CORPORAL HOLLY ANN CHARETTE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I rise to recognize the loss of a brave Marine in Iraq, Lance Corporal Holly Ann Charette, a Rhode Island citizen who served with dignity and honor. I join her family and the people of Rhode Island in mourning this great loss.